Dear,

Virginia has received \$834,038 in FY 2006 federal grant funding to support state and local Citizen Corps Councils with all hazards planning, public education, citizen participation, outreach and the management of Citizen Corps programs and activities. Citizen Corps Councils and programs are a major component of VDEM's emergency preparedness, homeland security, and volunteer efforts and support Governor Kaine's commitment to making communities across the Commonwealth safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to crime, terrorism, and disasters of all kinds. (For more information on Virginia's Citizen Corps programs see www.vaemergency.com).

Enclosed you will find the local application package for these funds. Most of these federally allocated funds, to be used to support the growth of local Citizen Corps activities, will be passed through to Virginia jurisdictions and their approved local Citizen Corps councils through a competitive process. Funding guidelines are included in the DHS *Fiscal Year 2006 Homeland Security Grant Program Guidance and Application Kit* and the attached application package. Subgrantees are encouraged to leverage Citizen Corps funds to support planning for and implementation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Also, subgrantees should look at developing relationships and partnerships with adjoining jurisdictions to include, but not limited to training/exercises, shared resources and memorandums of understanding. An electronic version of the application can be downloaded from the VDEM Web site at www.vaemergency.com. Please work with your local Citizen Corps Council in making this application.

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The deadline to submit Citizen Corps Program grant applications is **5 p.m. Tuesday**, **April 3, 2007.** Completed grant applications should be sent to: Virginia Department of Emergency Management, CCP Grant Applications, 10501 Trade Court, Richmond, VA 23236.

VDEM is committed to furthering public service in the Commonwealth through Virginia's Citizen Corps programs, and we are here to assist your locality with its community preparedness efforts. If you have any questions concerning the Citizen Corps program, please contact VDEM's Citizen Corps Program Manager, Suzanne Simmons, at (804) 897-6518 or via e-mail at: Suzanne.Simmons@vdem.virginia.gov.

Sincerely,

Michael M. Cline

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